

CLAIMS:

1. A lidded container erected or erectable from four blank components,
the unlidded container being erected or erectable from three blank components to define first a
container prior to or for filling and then lidding, said container being erected or erectable for
5 filling from
a first blank to define a side wall type bliss container bodybody component to define a
rectangular base panel and end wall panels dependent therefrom, the base and each end wall
panel having laterally (lateral with respect to the elongate axis of the base) extending flaps to
allow the first blank's use as a side wall type bliss container body component,
10 a second blank to define a full height side wall panel and a partial yet full height end
wall attachment and/or reinforcement panel at each end of the side wall panel, and
a third blank to define a full height side wall panel and a partial yet full height end wall
attachment and/or reinforcement panel at each end of the side wall panel, and
a fourth blank to define a lidding panel with attachment flaps to extend and adhesively
15 be affixed to the top of the end wall panels and the side wall panels of the assembled container
and filled, said fourth blank having the lidding panel at least in part with perforate and/or
frangible zones to encourage tear opening thereof.
2. A container of claim 1 adapted for or at least suitable for transporting chilled meat or
like unfrozen products.
- 20 3. A container of claim 1 or 2 wherein the blank components are all of, at least in part, a
paperboard or like laminate.
4. A container of any one of the preceding claims wherein at least one of the blank
components is of a single or multiple cushion corrugated board.
5. A container of any one of the preceding claims wherein the first, second and third
25 blanks are erected and/or former held for filling prior to fixing of the forth blank thereto.
6. A container of any one of the preceding claims wherein the second and third blanks are
of a corrugated board material adapted to bear vertically (in a flute run direction of the
corrugated board material) anticipated stack loads of the meat or like filled erect containers.

7. A container of any one of the preceding claims wherein the first blank, second blank, third blank, and/or fourth blank is substantially as herein described with reference to any one of Figures 1A to 1DDD.

8. A container of any one of the preceding claims wherein the container erects to a form substantially as herein described with reference to Figures 1A through 3.

9. A machine line for erecting (at least in part) two types of container, the machine line being adapted in one mode to define a lidded container, said container being erected or erectable from at least

a first blank to define a side wall type bliss container bodybody component to define a rectangular base panel and end wall panels dependent therefrom, the base and each end wall panel having laterally (lateral with respect to the elongate axis of the base) extending flaps to allow the first blank's use as a side wall bliss container body component,

a second blank to define a full height side wall panel and a partial yet full height end wall attachment and/or reinforcement panel at each end of the side wall panel,

a third blank to define a full height side wall panel and a partial yet full height end wall attachment and/or reinforcement panel at each end of the side wall panel, and

the machine being adapted in a second mode to define a container, said container being erected or erectable from at least

a first blank to define a side wall type bliss container bodybody component to define a rectangular base panel and end wall panels dependent therefrom, the base and each end wall panel having laterally (lateral with respect to the elongate axis of the base) extending flaps to allow the first blank's use as a side wall bliss container body component,

a second blank to define a full height side wall panel and a partial yet full height end wall attachment and/or reinforcement panel at each end of the side wall panel, and

a third blank to define a full height side wall panel and a partial yet full height end wall attachment and/or reinforcement panel at each end of the side wall panel,

and wherein, in each of the modes, the container is adapted to be closed (once filled) by a fourth blank to define a lidding panel with attachment flaps to extend and adhesively be affixed to the top of the end wall panels and the side wall panels,

and wherein, in the first mode, the construction of the second and third blanks is more substantial than in the second mode with respect to

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

- 1) the extent of the end wall attachment and/or reinforcement panel at each end of the side wall panel,
- 2) the material from which the second and third blanks are formed, or
- 3) both (1) and (2).

- 5 10. A machine of claim 9 wherein either or both defined container(s) is adapted for transporting frozen meat or like frozen product(s).
11. A machine line of claim 9 or 10 which is in or includes a fill line.
12. A machine line of claim 11 which first erects (at least in part) a carcase of first, second or third blanks, fills the carcase, and closes it with a fourth blank.
- 10 13. A machine line of any one of claims 9 to 12 which in each mode the first blank is identical.
14. A machine line of any one of claims 9 to 13 which the modes of erection involves the use of hot melt adhesive.
- 15 15. A machine line of claim 9 or 10 which each container is adapted to be filled with its intended content before the machine line or some separate apparatus attaches any part of the fourth blank thereto.
16. A machine line of claim 15 which the fourth blank is affixed by use of not melt adhesive.
- 20 17. A machine line of claim 9, in said first mode, defines is a container as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8.
18. A machine line of claim 9 or 17, in the second mode defines a container when the fourth blank is fitted thereto;
- (A) without the lidding panel having at least in part perforate and/or frangible zones to encourage tear opening thereof; and
- 25 (B) preferably without both the structural strength of the material from which the second and third blanks of the first mode are formed and without the end wall attachment and/or reinforcement panels extending inwardly as far as in the first mode.
19. A machine line of any one of claims 9 to 18 which such panels substantially or more or less meet at the central axis of the container in a first mode container whereas, in the second

- 13 -

mode container, they are merely relatively small intrusions towards the centre (i.e. they do not confer any substantial reinforcement near that provided in the first mode).

20. A machine line of any one of claims 9 to 19 in which the container of the second mode is substantially of a form as hereinafter described with reference to Figures 2A to 2D.

5 21. In combination, but unerected, the blanks of a lidded container as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8.

22. In combination, the combination of claim 21 and a machine capable of erecting at least the unlidded container.

10 23. A fill line which includes in the fill line a machine line adapted first to erect a carcass to be filled of a mode 1 and/or mode 2 type container of any one of claims 9 to 20 and, post filling, to allow the fitting of the lidding feature thereto.

15 24. In any machine line, the capability of erecting to the extent required for filling with produce any container or container sub-assembly of the two types herein described with reference to any one or more of the accompanying drawings and thereafter lidding each such container or container sub-assembly when so filled.

25. A pack produced from a pack being a filled lidded container of any one of claims 1 to 8, the container having been first erected from the three blanks, filled with the content of the pack, and thereafter lidded with the fourth blank.

20 26. A pack of claim 25 where the container has been erected, filled and lidded using a machine line of any one of claims 9 to 20.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY